La Carta

March 1995 Volume 5 Issue 3

La Guia, Down the Road

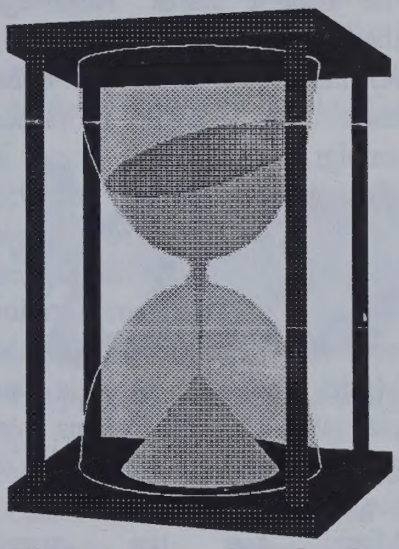
The Steering Committee is reorganizing the structure in order to keep up with the times. From now on the "Divisions" of La Guia will be urged to function more independently at the local level and more jointly on the regional level.

This means that each division will be known as: La Guia Denver, La Guia Pueblo, La Guia San Luis Valley and La Guia Colorado Springs. Each Division wili be responsible for recruitment and hosting activities within their divisions. This will be accomplished by a "Team of Representatives" who will work within their respective divisions on local matters and who will represent the division at Steering Committee Meetings.

Plans are also being made for a voice-mail system that will service each division with their own contact number. This system will enable La Guia members in specific Divisions to leave messages for their Division Representatives. It will also act as a means for non-members interested in membership to contact a representative for information on joining La Guia.

We project that a team of 5 to 10 representaives from each Division, depending on the size of the Division, should be able to do the job. Reps. will also be responsible for organizing and coordinating smaller local events and functions catered to their Division members.

The new Regional offices of La Guia in Colorado Springs will still function as the informational, publishing and organizational center of the group. This strong centralized structure will enable ALL members to contribute to a newsletter (La Carta) that will reach all the different divisions as well as keep the high cost of producing literature to such a widespread membership to a more manageble dollar amount.



Time is Running Out!

La Guia will not send "La Carta" to non-members after this issue. If you have not been registered by the end of the month you will be dropped from the newsletter mailing list. **If you have not received a membership card by now, then you are probrobly not registered.** To register, you must call the regional office and leave your name, address and number. This will enable you to continue to receive the newsletter and discounts at La Guia functions. If you are a registered member who has, encourage anyone not registered, to register today

For more information, please call: 1-719-473-6771

CUBA

Cuban Americans make up the third largest Hispanic group in the United states. Althrough there is a Cuban community in northern New Jersey that dates back to 1850, Cuban immigration did not occur in great numbers until the 1959 when Fidel Castro seized power. At which the largest wave of Cuban immigration occurred in the 1980's when the Mariel boatlift brought an estimated 125,000 Cubans over a course of several months to the United States.
Miami has the largest concentration of followed by the New York Tri-state area and the Los Angeles Metropolitan Area.
Cuban Americans are usually held as an example to other Hispanic groups due to their exemplified determined and enterprising success as imigrants. But despite their economic gains, Cubans still suffer the same cultural clash that all other Hispanic groups encounter. Language, Educational and racial/ethnic barriers still tend to hinder or slow adjustment to life inthe U.S.

The greatest problem for Cuban Americans tends to be the breakdown of the traditional custom that accords much attention and respect to the elderly. Against tradition thousands of elderly Cubans live alone in Florida.

As all Hispanos, the struggle to hold on to the positive atributes of of all our separate Hispanic cultures still proves to be an ongoing battle. For Cubans, We have a special admiration for their ability to provide for their own while balancing the onslaught of a non-hispanic culture.

In celebrating the diversity of the mosaic of Hispano cultures in the United States and members of La Guia, we would like to Honor Cubanos this month. Viva Cuba Libre !

Important Steering Committee Meeting On Saturday March 11th.

The La Guia Steering Committee will meet at the "Gay Center" conference room in Colorado Springs. All Division Representatives, Board of Directors and Steering Committee members are requiered to attend.
A reveiw of the submission for 501 3c status will on the agenda, as well as the calender of events for the following months through February 96.

Also set for discussion are the proposals for separate "Division operations and communication systems.

The meeting will start at 2:00pm, Saturday, March 11th.. The Center is located at the S.E. corner of Bijou and Parkside. An additional mailing will be sent to those individuals who are requiered to attend containing map, directions and a meeting agenda. Snacks and refreshments will be available in the La Guia office.

March is Women History Month !

During the month of March, we usually reflect on the historical accomplishments of women. The biggest historical accomplishment of women is the ability to choose their own destiny as human beings. including the right to choose who they want to be, what they want to do and where they want to go. Although these decisions may seem like simple decisions, to women due to cultural socilization of the past have been forced by society to be and do what the males of society decided for them; BUT after years of domesticated slavery and the determination of women everywhere to break these the "weaker sex" stereotype women have proved over and over again that they are just as equal as any male in society. (in many cases they have proven that they are superior in some feilds)

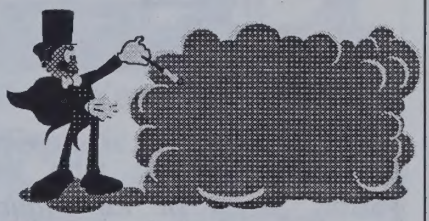
Diplomacy, compromise, peace, coalition, determination, perserverance, fortitude, fairness, copassion and their female humanity are the attributes to be admired of women. We cite these attributes when we reflect that women didn't go to war to win respect, they didn't bomb an airport to get attention, they also didn't burn any bridges that otthers forbid them to cross; Women simply stood up and said "we're tire of this inequality and we're not going to take it anymore", then instilled with the inate quality of human feminity they set out and individually proved their determined capabilities in as many different ways as there are individual women...and everyone benifitted.

Thanks to women, we now see women controlling their own destinies, and in some respects, ours. They are nolonger just the domesticated workers destined to "stand by their man" (yuk!) they are poised to set an example to all humanity that each individual should be judged on the content of their character and not on the gender, race, sexual orientation,ect...

As a male, I jealously look at the accomplishments of the feminist movement and wonder, "could men take a lesson of emancipation through dignified strength and determination as opposed to having to resort to a testosterone driven idea of knocking others down so we may rise?"

Granted, women have still not reached true equality, but I believe that the chauvanists are on their last leg. I only hope that

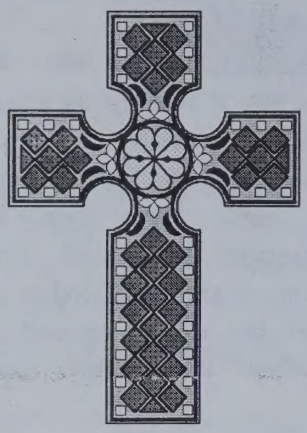
when, the males who do not recognize women as equals are pasted over by an improved more civilized world, that they at least learn one lesson; "Respect is earned, Love is granted and knowledge can be had, but ignorance will always be free!" (my quote) by: G.E.



Happy St. Patrick's Day!

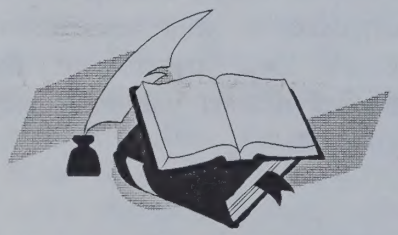
Wishing a happy and safe celebration to everyone on St. Patricks day. Parades, Green Beer and sound of bag-pipes will be heard during and around the 17th. of March. It's the time when almost everyone claims some connection to the Irish.

Festivals and parades have been organized in your home town; check local papers for the festival nearset you and enjoy yourself.



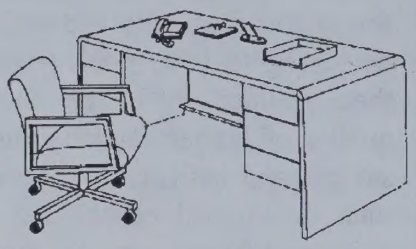
March 19th. is St Joseph's Day!

For those of you who ~~the~~ celebrate Patron Saints of *La Madre Patria* (the mother country), March is also the month when the Festival of San Jose' is celebrated in Spain. Although it is generally a religious holiday, the atmosphere takes on a "Fiesta" air when communities get together with Mass, good food and music to comemorate St. Josephs Day.



Community Library at the " New Gay Center"

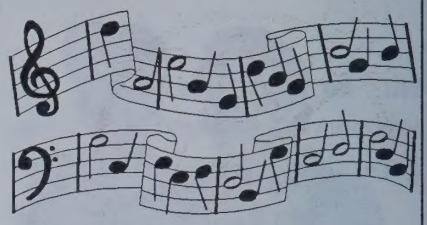
The past La Guia project of collecting books for a Latino Literary Library is being consolidated to be added to the PPGLCC library collection. The book collection has been lagging for months and we decided that it should be donated to the community library. We still encourage you to save your old books and donate them so they can still be of some use to someone. Even more welcome would be the donation of some new books to the 'community ' library.



Office and Meeting space still being readied

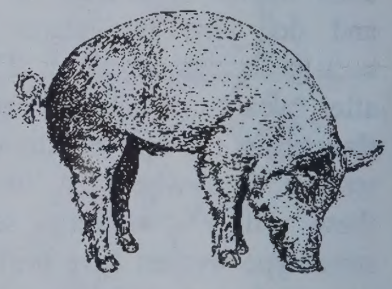
We are still working on moving into our new office at the 'Center' at Parkside and Bijou in Colo. Sprgs. Althuogh our furnishings and equipment are meager and somewhat sparse, we could use some donated pieces. It doesn't matter if they are in a little disrepair, we'll be glad to pick up any filing cabinets, desks ar chairs that you would like to throw away. If the furniture is fixable...we'll take it. So next time you plan to throw a chair or a little table in the trash, but it could be restored with a little work... call us. Thanks. -the Admin. Comm.

Divert Celibates



Ballet Folklorico De La Raza...Needs Dancers!

The "Ballet Folklorico De La Raza" of Colorado Springs is looking for adult dancers. Ages of the dancing group currently ranges from 3 to 30. All lessons are free and most of the costumes are provided. Practices are held from 6 to 8pm on Tuesdays and Thursdays at East Jr. High, 1600 N. Union Blvd. in Colorado Springs and at 10:30am to 12:30 on Saturday mornings at the Ironhorse Gym in Fort Carson. If you are interested please call Connie at 683-2162



Adopt A Pig for S-CAP!

The adopt a pig program (piggy bank) sponsored by the UCPPE is still going on and pigs are still available. Although the pigs are going fast, you still have time to get into the game. For more information call 475-0482 or 447-1092

WE'LL ONLY SAY THIS ONCE!

Physical or verbal violence compounded by racial slurs against La Guia or any La Guia member **will not be tolerated !** Any member who resorts to this type of unproductive and self destructive behavior will be removed imediately from the membership rolls and barred from all La Guia activities and functions. Warnings may precede termination of membership if violation of common respect is minor, BUT if altercations are of a severe nature you will be contacted ONLY ONCE! This type of behavior includes attacks against our gay allies (Ground Zero, La Gente Unida, Pueblo After 2, Equality Colo., S-CAP, Ect...) The message is clear; subjective criticism, lively debate, civil arguments or even heated discussions are acceptable. Our success has been built on diplomacy and respectful tolerance, but if certain individuals cannot be discerning, see the need for compromise or simple can not get along with anyone then...frankly we don't need them. Respect, Tolerance and compassion are not just words!

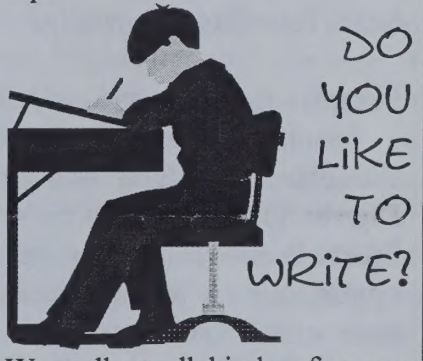
It is unfortunate that we even have to include such an article as this. The simple reason is La Guia is both one of the easiest organizations to join and probrably the simplest to maintain membership in, never-the less there are guidelines that we must follow inorder to accomodate all the diverse elements within our group and to maintain the trust and confidence of all members. The rules at the top of our list that we hold to be most important include, but not limited to:

- membership lists are strickly confidential and are not to be used for anything but **pre-approved** La Guia activity.
- All issues, must be solved in a civil and respectfully agreeable manner. No deadlocks are allowed at the Steering Committee level, committee members are expected to confer with eachother till an agreement is reached. (we have not had to clarify or even mention this one till now)
- All members must adhere to the motto and mission statements of La Guia.

As an inclusionary group, we must be tolerant and respectful of others, and in light of the overt liable of La Guia and Pueblo After 2 by certain individuals, accompanied by physical altercation by another, we want to make it perfectly clear that we condemn and discourage this kind of behavior. Nor are these individuals associated with La Guia in any way.

Show Your Work During Hispanic Month !

The end of September begins "Hispanic Month"and a proposal has been made to set up a Hispanic exhibition at the 'Center" during the duration of our comemoration. Like the Idea? Get in Touch with a Representative; we want your input.

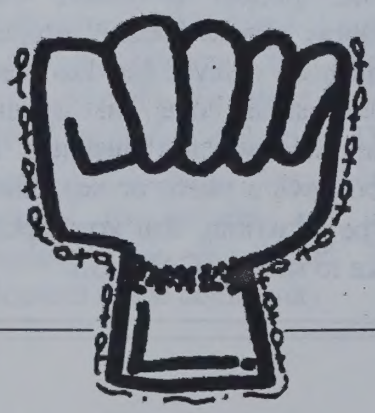


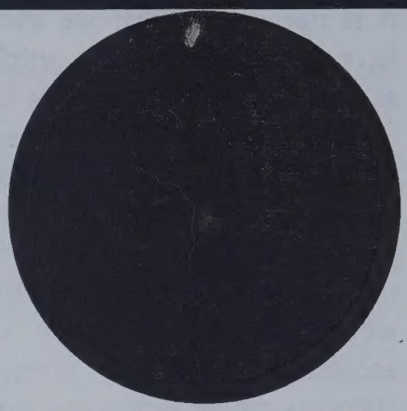
We collect all kinds of poems, short stories and other literary compositions by Latinos and other people of color. Our "Obras Periscopicos" project had been delayed but has been rejuvenated due to recent inquiries by a few members. If you have a poem or any other type of writing that you would like to submit, CALL US!

Do You Like Bicycling ?

The "Annual Rampart Range Picnic and Bike Ride" is being scheduled for the last Saturday of July. We need someone interested in coordination of the event plus making sure that all the LesBiTransGay bicycling groups around the state are invited to participate. The Picnic and Bike Ride also includes a varied chicken menu and volley ball tournament. Originally it was held as a tribute to Ground Zero for their help and support of La Guia but has been expanded to include an invitation to the rest of the LesBiTransGay community.

Rampart Range Reservoir is in a beautiful location east of Woodland Park and south of Denver with an awsome view of Pikes Peak. This is a great opportunity for an individual to meet other outdoor types at a proven fun filled event; if your interested, we've got the information.





Is The Country of Your Roots Being Mentioned? If It Has Not, We Want To Know!

Each month La Carta will try to include an article or two containing cultural, statistical and some historical information on a particular sect within the Hispano community. If you are a member of La Guia the La Carta staff will include an article about your particular Latino culture. Simply contact the Regional office and submit any information or request and it will be worked in.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- Due to a tight schedule and at his request, Sonny Sombrano will not 'chair the Fundraising Committee but will stay on as a committee member. Sonny will also still retain his position on the Board of Directors.
- clarifying some inquiries as to representation in Pueblo, Robert G. has not been associated with La Guia since May 1994, however Terry A. and Alexis L. are currently the Division Representatives for Pueblo.

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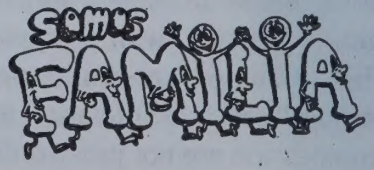
Articulos Bilingues

Hopefully, next month, La Carta will include spanish language articles. Thanks to the Hernando A. who has offered to write some our articles in Spanish. La Carta also has had some articles and editorials in reserve for some time, but for one reason or another have not been incorporated.

As you know bilingual education is not readily available in this country so many of the spanish speakers of our group felt a little embarressed with their literary proficiency in Spanish. To remedy the problem, all submissions in Spanish will be edited as are all submissions in English .



REMEMBER! March 11th. Streering Comm. Meeting. - Colo. Sprgs.

Equality Colorado Forum

- subj. Legislative Strategies: Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual Equality in Colorado. Tuesday, March 9th. 7pm at First Unitarian Church on 1400 Lafayette in Denver.
- subj. Same Sex Marriages. Sunday, March 12th. 5:00 to 7:00pm at First Unitarian Church at 1400 Lafayette in Denver

For more information call Equality Colorado at (303) 839-5540

Community-Wide Garage Sale

Saturday and Sunday between 9am to 2pm at the "new community center" at the S.E. corner of East Bijou & Park PL. (just east of Montgomery Wards)

note: please contact the staff of upcoming events with ample time...we are trying to regular deadlines. thanks

LA GUÍA
DIVERSITY INCLUSION

La Guia
p.o. box 1335
Colorado Springs, Co.
80901
ph. 719-473-6771

our motto:
DIVERSITY
THROUGH
INCLUSION

Do you want a pen-pal? call the hot-line we'll tell you how!

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR:

Send all letters to La Carta, attn. Editor, p.o. box 1335, Colo. Sprgs., Co. 80901

WANT TO MEET NEW PEOPLE?

GET INVOLVED! CONTACT A REP. IN YOUR DIVISION OR CALL 719-473-6771 TAKE A MINUTE...

EASY MONEY !

Don't forget to fill out your NTC long distance membership form. Each individual who signs up for this money saving fundraiser will be eligable for a $100 give-away on Cinco De Mayo Weekend! So get going, don't be left out ! send the form to us today!

Worried About AIDS?

La Guia is in the process of coordinating it's ongoing efforts to educate and inform the Hispanic/Latino community about HIV and AIDS. A series of group discussions will be planned in the next month to help LesBiTransGay Latinos to decide for themselves with the mediation of La Guia a community-wide plan to keep Hispanics informed. Recent Deaths within our community has alarmed us as to the effectiveness of current programs in the state. With the input of S-CAP and other agencies it is hoped that a plan of action can be formulated.
please help us and yourselves!
call the hot-line for more info.

La Carta is a monthly publication that is authorized by the La Guia Board of Directors. The contents of La Carta do not necessarily reflect the official views of the organization. The Staff of La Carta reserves the right to edit all submissions for length or content. Submissions should be sent to: La Carta, p.o. box 1335, Colorado Springs, Colorado 80901

LA GUÍA
DIVERSITY INCLUSION

March 1995

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La Guia Calender of Events
- 2pm, steering committee meeting at L.G. office in Colo. Sprgs.
- La Carta submissions deadline

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11 2pm. steering comm. mtg. Colo. Sprgs. @ LG office
12	13	14	15	16	17 St. Patricks Day	18
19 St. Josephs Day (Spain)	20 1st. day of Spring	21	22	23	24	25 La Carta submissions deadline
26	27	28	29	30	31	

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Simply try NTC's Dial-1 Long Distance Service and You'll enjoy up to 56% savings over AT&T on your next bill. PLUS, you'll be contributing 5% of your long distance usage to La Guia!...money that is desperately needed. Everybody wins with this fundraiser! PLEASE, Fill out the form at the back

La Guia Fundraiser!

Signing-up NOW makes YOU eligible for $100 Raffle on MAY 5th!

Friday, March 17, 1995
Show 8:00 pm
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